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INFORMATION REPORT

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1.

A meeting was held in Sian at which it was agreed to link up the leprosy work with the International Leprosy Organization (sic), but no further word has appeared.
2.
3. While leprosy patients at the Tungkuang (113-46, 23-02) Colony benefited greatly from the tissue treatment, it had no effect on the progress of the disease but while the Chinese Communist professor responsible for the treatment had given one course and had promised to return, nothing more had been seen of him after several months had passed. The missionaries formerly responsible for the work have not been permitted to visit the colony. Land, bought at considerable cost, to help the patients to be self-supporting and less dependent on outside help, have been taken back by the farmers from whom they were purchased, and though the injustice is admitted by officials of the new regime, nothing is done to redress the wrong.
4. The leprosarium at Lanchow was maintained by the China Inland Mission. It has now been taken over by the Government along with the Mission Hospital, and all foreign workers have had to leave. But faithful Chinese friends have been found to carry on the work, and with ample supplies of drugs for all the patients there is no reason why it should not continue to provide effective

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treatment for at least another year.

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5. In Hainan, where the [] Mission supervised the treatment in a Government Leprosarium, the work has been entirely taken over. Missionaries are no longer permitted to visit the leprosarium, though the Chinese manager is allowed to come and consult the missionaries. All efforts to help maintain supplies of drugs have so far been unsuccessful.
6. A small leprosarium established within recent years was dispersed by the local officials. No word has been received as to the fate of W.L. Winter, the missionary in charge.
7. A small colony at Erhyuen near Tali (100-11, 25-43) established by the China Inland Mission and in which all the patients had become Christians was wiped out by local officials of the new regime as soon as they found they had the power in their hands.
8. The Siaokan Leper Home near Hankow, established 50 years ago by the Mission to Lepers and maintained by that organization with the co-operation of the local missionaries, was closed down by local officials who had been trying to get it moved from the town to the country. But no steps were taken to provide alternative accommodation. Some patients found shelter in a temple along with the priests who lived there, and others were transferred to other homes.
9. Leprosaria attached to Medical Schools at Tsinan and Chengtu have been taken over along with those institutions, and it is believed that the work is being continued. The Leper Hospital at Tsinan is now supported entirely by the local government. There is a big out-patient clinic to take care of mild cases. The hospital was moved to a better place but it is still too small to admit lepers who are willing to stay.
10. With the introduction of the sulphone group of drugs an increasing number of Mission hospitals had begun to treat leprosy patients in out-patient clinics. There is definite news that in mission hospitals at Swatow and Chieh yang (116-20, 23-32) where the largest clinics were held these have been entirely discontinued or the numbers have dropped to very few. At Chieh yang the missionaries responsible have been held for nearly a year under "house arrest" and the Chinese doctor who gave his time to assist in this work has been arrested.
11. In Hankow on the other hand a flourishing clinic was built up under the supervision of Dr. Andrew Pearson who has since returned home, and he reported an active interest, plans for maintaining the work, and for developing a leprosarium in connection with it for several thousand patients.
12. At Hangchow it has been stated that the Government not only does nothing to stop religious instruction in certain leprosaria, but that it approves the teaching of Christianity for those suffering from leprosy. This is probably the view of local officials rather than the accepted view of the leaders of the new regime.
1. [] Comment. It seems likely that while this interest and forward planning reveals the desire of the health authorities to do something effective about the problem, any steps to implement it are prevented by higher or rival powers, police or local officials.

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